

**The City of Springfield, Ohio
City Commission Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 26, 2021 – 7:00 p.m.
City Hall Forum**

The meeting was called to order by Assistant Mayor Chilton. Roll call was answered by Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

The invocation was offered by Mrs. Chilton, who then led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

On motion of Dr. Estrop, seconded by Mr. O'Neill, members approved the minutes of the October 12, 2021, Work Session and Legislative Meeting as presented.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

FIRST READINGS—ORDINANCES

The following legislation was read by title only for the first time and requires presentation at a second regular meeting before vote on passage:

263-21 Vacating the first alley east of South Limestone Street from Wilson Avenue south approximately 177 feet to the intersecting east-west alley and continuing east for approximately 275 feet.

278-21 To amend Ordinance No. 91-90, passed March 12, 1991, and commonly known as the Codified Ordinances of The City of Springfield, Ohio, by repealing and replacing certain sections of the Zoning Code and Building Code pertaining to appeals of the Historic Landmarks Commission decisions.

279-21 Authorizing the purchase of one (1) 2022 Ford Super Duty F-250 from National Auto Fleet Group, for an amount not to exceed \$63,277.64, through Sourcewell, pursuant to the Sourcewell Contract Purchasing Cooperative Program, in accordance with the provisions of Section 9.48 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Dr. Estrop asked if a similar vehicle could be purchased locally from Navistar International. City Manager Heck indicated the vehicle required did not compare in size to a locally-made truck.

185-21 Confirming and approving an Airport Rescue Grant Agreement through the Federal Aviation Administration in an amount up to \$59,000.00; and authorizing the City Manager, Director of Finance and Law Director to perform all acts and execute all documents considered necessary to fulfill the City's obligations under said Grant agreement, and to comply with all relevant local, state and federal legal requirements.

Mr. Heck spoke on the additional funding for the airport, and Mr. Copeland thanked staff for their work in securing funding and developing new project opportunities.

~~~~~ Next regular City Commission meeting: November 9, 2021. ~~~~~

**SECOND READINGS—ORDINANCES**

The following legislation was presented for a second time:

**266-21      Ordinance No. 21-321: Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Grant Agreement with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development ("HUD") for the HOME Investment Partnership - American Rescue Plan Grant in an amount not to exceed \$1,880,905.00; and authorizing the City Manager, Law Director, and Finance Director to do all things necessary for the execution of the grant agreement and to comply with all relevant local, state and federal legal requirements.**

Upon question from Dr. Estrop, Mr. Heck stated that many agencies received American Rescue Plan funding in addition to local governments and are distributing it through their partners. The additional HOME funds would be used to support housing opportunities.

Mr. Copeland thanked Community Development Director Meadows and her staff on their work with housing efforts.

On motion of Dr. Estrop, seconded by Mr. O'Neill, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

**267-21      Ordinance No. 21-322: Authorizing the Law Director to approve and settle a claim with Roger Krohn for the expense(s) associated with damage that occurred on his property located at 980 Lisa Court on or about August 21, 2021; and authorizing the Director of Finance to make payment to Roger Krohn in the amount of Five Hundred Sixty Dollars and Fifty-Nine Cents (\$560.59) as full and final settlement for said damages.**

On motion of Mr. O'Neill, seconded by Mr. Rue, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

**268-21      Ordinance No. 21-323: To amend Ordinance No. 91-90, passed March 12, 1991, and commonly known as the Codified Ordinances of The City of Springfield, Ohio, by enacting new Chapter 1721 titled *Tobacco Retailer Licensing & Sales*.**

Mrs. Chilton spoke on the Tobacco 21 effort to reduce tobacco use by young people. Mrs. Chilton asked Health Commissioner Patterson to speak on the new state law and the proposed retailer program.

Commissioner Patterson indicated the state law raising the legal age for purchasing tobacco products to 21 is already in effect. The proposed retailer program if approved by the City commission would begin on January 1, 2022. Retailers would be notified by the Health District of the new program by mail. An annual license fee of \$150 to sell tobacco products would be used to administer the program, conduct annual inspections, and provide signage for retail locations. The proposed program would only be for locations within the Springfield corporation limits.

Mr. Copeland spoke on health issues associated with smoking. Dr. Estrop noted the difficulty in quitting a smoking habit as former smoker and praised efforts to delay young people from starting.

On motion of Dr. Estrop, seconded by Mr. Rue, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

**79-21      Ordinance No. 21-324: Confirming and approving Amendment 1 to the Memorandum of Understanding with The Ohio State University for fiber connection at the Springfield-Beckley Municipal Airport to increase the amount of fiber connectivity provided.**

On motion of Dr. Estrop, seconded by Mr. Rue, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

### **EMERGENCY ORDINANCES**

The following emergency legislation was presented for the first time:

**11-21      Emergency Ordinance No. 21-325: Providing for Supplemental Appropriations within various funds; and declaring an emergency therein.**

On motion of Mr. Rue, seconded by Dr. Estrop, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

**270-21      Emergency Ordinance No. 21-326: Authorizing the City Manager to enter into an Employment Incentive Agreement with Gabriel Brothers, Inc., to incentivize construction of a new facility located at 1801-1830 Prime Parkway in Prime Ohio II to create employment in the City; authorizing the City Manager, Finance Director and Law Director to do all things necessary to implement the said Employment Incentive Agreement; and declaring an emergency therein.**

Mr. Rue stated his appreciation to the Gabriel Brothers organization for choosing to locate in the Springfield community.

Dr. Estrop praised the efforts of city staff and Horton Hobbs from the Greater Springfield Partnership to bring jobs to the area.

Mrs. Chilton asked how many jobs would be created by the new facility. Mr. Heck stated the proposed incentive agreement was based on 833 Full-Time Equivalent positions which would likely include 740+ full-time positions and 330+ part-time positions.

On motion of Mr. Rue, seconded by Dr. Estrop, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

**155-21      Emergency Ordinance No. 21-327: Confirming and approving Change Order No. 5 to the contract between the City and Arcon Builders for the White Box Retail Space Build-Out Project, to increase the contract in an amount not to exceed \$1,330.03, for a total amount not to exceed \$412,308.99; authorizing the City Manager to execute said Change Order No. 5; and declaring an emergency therein.**

Assistant City Manager and Economic Development Director Franzen noted the build-out portion of the project would be completed in the next few weeks. The first tenant lease could be signed by mid-November with the second tenant lease shortly thereafter. One tenant plans to use one space for retail, and the other tenant plans to use two spaces for a combined restaurant and store.

On motion of Mr. Rue, seconded by Mr. O'Neill, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

**280-21      Emergency Ordinance No. 21-328: Confirming and approving the acceptance of a 2021-2022 Selective Traffic Enforcement Program Grant in an amount up to \$23,596.87 and a 2021-2022 Impaired Driving Enforcement Program Grant in an amount up to \$22,096.87, from the Ohio Department of Public Safety, Governor's Highway Safety Office to reimburse salaries and certain fringe benefits of officers assigned to special overtime projects; authorizing the City Manager, Finance Director, Law Director and Chief of Police to perform all acts and execute all documents they consider necessary to fulfill the City's obligations under said grants and to comply with all relevant local, state and federal legal requirements; and declaring an emergency therein.**

On motion of Mr. O'Neill, seconded by Mr. Copeland, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

**281-21      Emergency Ordinance No. 21-329: Authorizing the City Hall Lighting Upgrades Project by Graybar Electric Company, Inc., for an amount not to exceed \$138,242.76, through Omnia Partners, pursuant to the Omnia Partners Contract Purchasing Cooperative Program, in accordance with the provisions of Section 9.48 of the Ohio Revised Code; and declaring an emergency therein.**

Dr. Estrop asked for additional information on the proposed lighting project. Mr. Heck stated the project includes upgrading City Hall's office spaces with LED lighting. Costs would be paid partially with grant funding from Northeast Ohio Public Energy Council (NOPEC).

On motion of Dr. Estrop, seconded by Mr. Rue, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

**282-21      Emergency Ordinance No. 21-330: Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Subrecipient Funding Agreement (C-Saw House 2021-2022) with Project Woman of Springfield and Clark County, Inc. to provide funding from Emergency Solutions Grant allocations, in an amount not to exceed \$34,036.00; and declaring an emergency therein.**

On motion of Mr. O'Neill, seconded by Mr. Rue, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

**283-21      Emergency Ordinance No. 21-331: Authorizing the City Manager to enter into a Subrecipient Funding Agreement (Norm's Place & Hartley House - 2021-2022) with Interfaith Hospitality Network, Inc. to provide funding from Emergency Solutions Grant allocations, in an amount not to exceed \$127,895.00; and declaring an emergency therein.**

On motion of Mr. Rue, seconded by Dr. Estrop, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

### **ITEM ADDED TO THE AGENDA: EMERGENCY ORDINANCE**

The following emergency legislation was presented for the first time:

**284-21      Emergency Ordinance No. 21-332: Authorizing the City Manager to execute a Quit Claim Deed in connection with transferring certain real property which is no longer needed for municipal purposes, located on Columbia Street; and declaring an emergency therein.**

Dr. Estrop asked if the transfer of the cemetery property to a non-profit organization would revert back to the city if they are unable to maintain the property in the future. Mr. Heck noted the situation would be comparable to the Newcomer's Cemetery that was handed over to Springfield as the local jurisdiction by the state when the owner could no longer maintain it.

On motion of Mr. O'Neill, seconded by Mr. Rue, the ordinance was passed.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, and Mr. Copeland. Abstain, Mr. Rue.

Yeas 4, Nays 0, Abstain 1.

### **COMMENTS FROM COMMISSIONERS**

**2-21**      Mrs. Chilton read and Mr. Copeland presented a proclamation proclaiming October 2021 as Hindu Heritage Month. Accepting the proclamation was Dr. Ravi Khanna and friends representing the Hindu Community of the Springfield area.

**2-21**      Upon question from Mrs. Chilton on utility assistance for citizen during colder months, Mr. Josh Cross of Ohio Edison encouraged residents to call Ohio Edison if they need assistance with utility bills. Residents can also call 2-1-1 for additional resources.

**2-21**      Mr. Copeland thanked Mrs. Chilton for leading two City Commission meetings during his recovery from illness.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

The following communications were received and filed:

**53-21**      Minutes of the September 13, 2021, meeting of the National Trail Parks and Recreation District Board.

**102-21**      Quarterly Investment Report, Third Quarter, 2021.

**197-21**      File-stamped copy of Ordinance No. 21-281 as filed with the Clark County Auditor and Recorder.

**276-21**      Notification from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control of a new liquor permit for Cracker Barrel Old Country Store Inc., dba Cracker Barrel Store 310, 105 West Leffel Lane.

**277-21**      Notification from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control of a liquor permit transfer request from Fishstick Adventures LLC dba Tunnel Drive Thru, 1810 East Main Street, to Brew Thru LLC, 1810 East Main Street.



There being no further business, on motion of Dr. Estrop, seconded by Mr. Rue, the meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue, and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

  
ASSISTANT MAYOR AND PRESIDING OFFICER

  
PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COMMISSION

  
CLERK OF THE CITY COMMISSION